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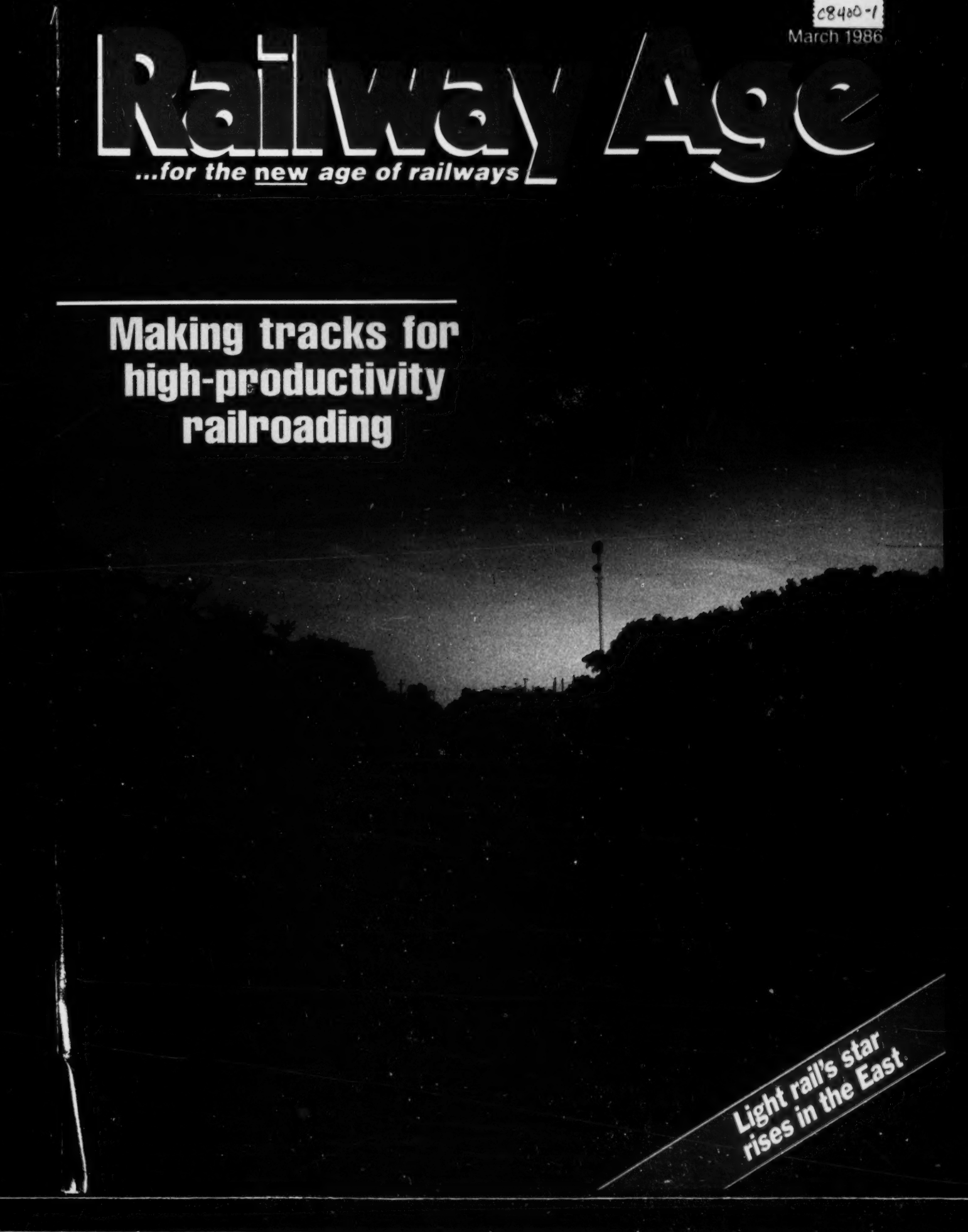
March 1986

Railway Age

...for the new age of railways

Making tracks for high-productivity railroading



Light rail's star rises in the East

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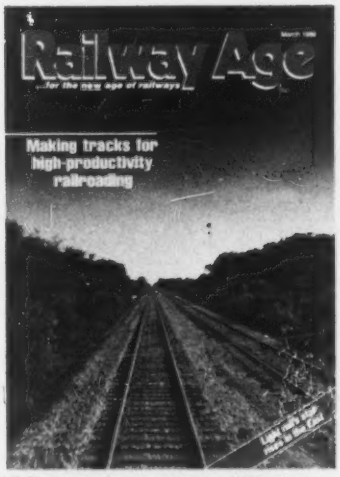
Six major airports are now served by rail lines, and more soon will be. The big problem so far has been ineffective promotion.

71 Light rail's star rises in the East

Yesterday's transportation has become tomorrow's as street railway systems flourish and expand in half a dozen eastern cities.



ICG track in southern Illinois was photographed by Roy H. Blanchard.

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Market Outlook

Equipment

Guilford Industries: Plans to acquire 79 new locomotives to supplement its present 300-unit fleet if it takes over certain rail lines now operated by Conrail or Norfolk Southern, as contemplated in a divestiture plan NS has drawn up as part of its proposal to purchase Conrail. Guilford also proposes to invest $3 million in new freight cars and $7 million in yard improvements.

Jacksonville Electric Authority: Placed an order with Bethlehem Steel's Freight Car Division for an additional 200 BethGon Coalporters. Division President Ronald L. Zimmermann said the new order will be added to an existing Jacksonville Electric order for 200 steel and aluminum Coalporters.

Union Pacific: Ordered 384 tri-level autoracks from Thrall Car at a cost of $14 million; delivery of the fully-enclosed cars is scheduled to be completed this month.

Facilities

CP Rail: A 1986 capital program now estimated at $500 million (Canadian) includes $150 million for the Rogers Pass grade reduction and tunneling project; $135 million for track and structures upgrading and replacement; and $115 million for equipment. In addition to previously-reported plans for acquisition of 50 new 2,000-hp diesel-electric units, CP Rail will purchase new intermodal equipment and work cars. Approximately $39 million is earmarked for improvements to grain-handling branch lines in western Canada, as part of the federally-funded Branch Line Rehabilitation Program. The railroad also plans installation of new train radio and hotbox detector systems.

New Jersey Transit Corp.: Contracted with Safetran Systems Corp. for supply of $7.5 million in signal and communications equipment for installation on the Matawan-Long Branch section of Jersey Transit's North Coast Line.

Union Pacific: Will expand its intermodal terminal at Stockton, Calif., at a cost of $1.3 million.

Washington Union Station: A $70-million renovation program calls for the revamping of 500,000 square feet of space. Amtrak and Maryland DOT's MARC commuter operations will be returned to the main station (which 10 years ago was turned into a National Visitors Center). Parking space for 1,200 automobiles plus 200 tour buses will be added. Part of the station space will be developed into shops, theaters, restaurants, and offices. Construction management is under the direction of the joint venture of Gilbane Building Co. and the Sherman R. Smoot Co. The development venture consists of LaSalle Partners, Inc., Equity Associates, Williams Jackson Ewing Associates, and Benjamin Thompson Associates Inc. Harry Weese & Associates is the renovation architect.

Revenue freight carloadings

Commodity	Feb. 8 week	Feb. 1 week	Jan. 25 week	Jan. 18 week
Grain	24,598	22,583	26,310	27,902
Other farm products	3,697	4,271	4,297	4,944
Metallic ores	11,900	11,740	11,973	10,491
Coal	114,549	103,191	118,651	117,453
Crushed stone, gravel and sand	9,852	8,607	10,228	9,506
Nonmetallic minerals	8,675	8,351	8,625	8,612
Grain mill products	10,932	10,956	10,838	11,037
Food and kindred products	10,921	10,813	11,463	11,193
Primary forest products	11,480	10,615	11,739	11,859
Lumber and wood products except furniture	7,232	8,092	7,594	7,356
Pulp, paper and allied products	13,552	14,009	13,684	13,760
Chemicals and allied products	23,964	24,393	24,275	24,450
Petroleum products	4,812	5,052	5,138	5,331
Stone, clay and glass products	8,743	8,453	9,489	9,509
Coke	4,479	4,090	4,959	4,462
Metals and products	7,651	8,737	8,829	8,594
Motor vehicles and equipment	22,735	22,632	23,591	22,929
Waste and scrap materials	8,945	8,329	9,197	8,877
Forwarder and shipper assn. traffic	5,622	5,724	5,764	5,698
All other carloads	64,005	61,274	61,678	61,919
LCL traffic	144	145	136	146
Total Cars Loaded	**378,488**	**362,057**	**388,458**	**386,028**
% change from previous year	6.2	(0.5)	18.5	6.0
Estimated revenue ton-miles (billions)	17.5	16.9	18.0	17.9
% change from previous year	6.1	0.4	15.4	6.0

Total:	1986	1985	% change
6 weeks	100.4	94.9	5.7

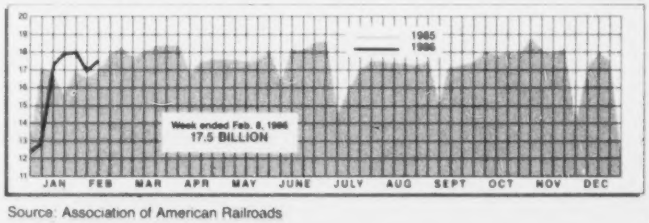
Piggyback loadings

	Feb. 1 week	Jan. 25 week	Jan. 18 week	Jan. 11 week
Trailers/containers	95,259	95,205	95,048	89,094

Cumulative total, 5 weeks		% change from 1985
Trailers/containers	440,658	14.4

Rail freight traffic trends

Billion ton-miles (Estimated)



Source: Association of American Railroads

Note: Due to reporting delays, the American Railway Car Institute was unable to supply its January freight-car order and delivery statistics by press time.